



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

A. G. Kawamura, Secretary

March 30, 2006

**RE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF MINIMUM PRICES FOR CLASSES 2, 3, 4a and 4b  
MARKET MILK**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

On the reverse side of this page are the minimum prices for Classes 2, 3, 4a and 4b market milk for March, April and May 2006. All prices are f.o.b. milk processing plant. As provided in the Stabilization and Marketing Plans for Market Milk (Plans), milk handlers shall pay producers the minimum prices for market milk components sold or used for all Classes 2, 3, 4a and 4b purposes as specified on the reverse side of this page. Component and hundredweight prices for Classes 2 and 3 include Milk Producers Security Trust Fund charges effective June 1, 2002.

If market milk components are purchased f.o.b. producer's dairy location, haul deductions may be made as provided in the Plans.

Equivalent hundredweight prices shown in the right-hand column are based upon milk that is 3.5% fat and 8.7% solids-not-fat (SNF). These classified minimum prices that processors must pay for milk received from producers are calculated based upon mathematical formulas. The formulas are established and amended as needed through a public hearing process. These formulas include commercial prices for manufactured dairy products (butter, Cheddar cheese western dry whey and nonfat dry milk). These commercial prices are also listed on the reverse side of this page.

You can access class price information over the Internet on the Department's dairy homepage at <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/dairy>. From the main menu, select the [Dairy Prices] link and then the [Minimum Class Price Letters] link. Once there, be sure to make a bookmark for future reference. Current class price information is also available on a recorded message. Please call (800) 503-3490 to hear the recording. If you are calling from Sacramento, or from outside of California, please call (916) 442-MILK.

For more information, please contact us at the telephone number or e-mail address below.

Sincerely,

David K. Ikari, Chief  
Dairy Marketing Branch



**MINIMUM PRICES FOR CLASSES 2, 3, 4a & 4b MARKET MILK  
F.O.B. PROCESSING PLANT**

Released:      March 30, 2006

<b>CLASS 2:</b> <b>For April and May 2006</b>	<b>LB. FAT</b>	<b>LB. SNF</b>	<b>EQUIVALENT PER CWT.</b>
Northern California	\$1.2496	\$0.7761	\$11.13
Southern California	\$1.2519	\$0.8019	\$11.36

<b>CLASS 3:</b> <b>For April and May 2006</b>	<b>LB. FAT</b>	<b>LB. SNF</b>	<b>EQUIVALENT PER CWT.</b>
Northern California	\$1.2496	\$0.7704	\$11.08
Southern California	\$1.2519	\$0.7704	\$11.08

<b>CLASS 4a:</b> <b>March 2006</b>	<b>LB. FAT</b>	<b>LB. SNF</b>	<b>EQUIVALENT PER CWT.</b>
Statewide	\$1.1814	\$0.6960	\$10.19

<b>CLASS 4b:</b> <b>March 2006</b>	<b>LB. FAT</b>	<b>LB. SNF</b>	<b>EQUIVALENT PER CWT.</b>
Statewide	\$1.1814	\$0.7307	\$10.49

<b>COMMODITY MARKET PRICES:</b>	<b>\$ PER LB.</b>
Chicago Mercantile Exchange Grade AA Butter - Daily Simple Average (February 26th - March 25th)	\$1.1690
Chicago Mercantile Exchange Block Cheddar Cheese - Daily Simple Average (February 26th - March 25th)	\$1.1586
California Extra Grade & Grade A Nonfat Dry Milk - Monthly Weighted Average (February 26th - March 25th)	\$0.8480
Western Dry Whey (Mostly) - Monthly Simple Average (February 26th - March 25th)	\$0.3381

*Component and hundredweight prices for Classes 2 & 3 include Milk Producer Security Trust Fund charges effective June 1, 2002.*

May 2006 Class 1 prices will be announced no later than 4:00 p.m. on April 10, 2006.

June and July 2006 Class 2 and 3 prices will be announced no later than 4:00 p.m. on June 1, 2006.

April 2006 Class 4a and 4b prices will be announced no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 1, 2006.